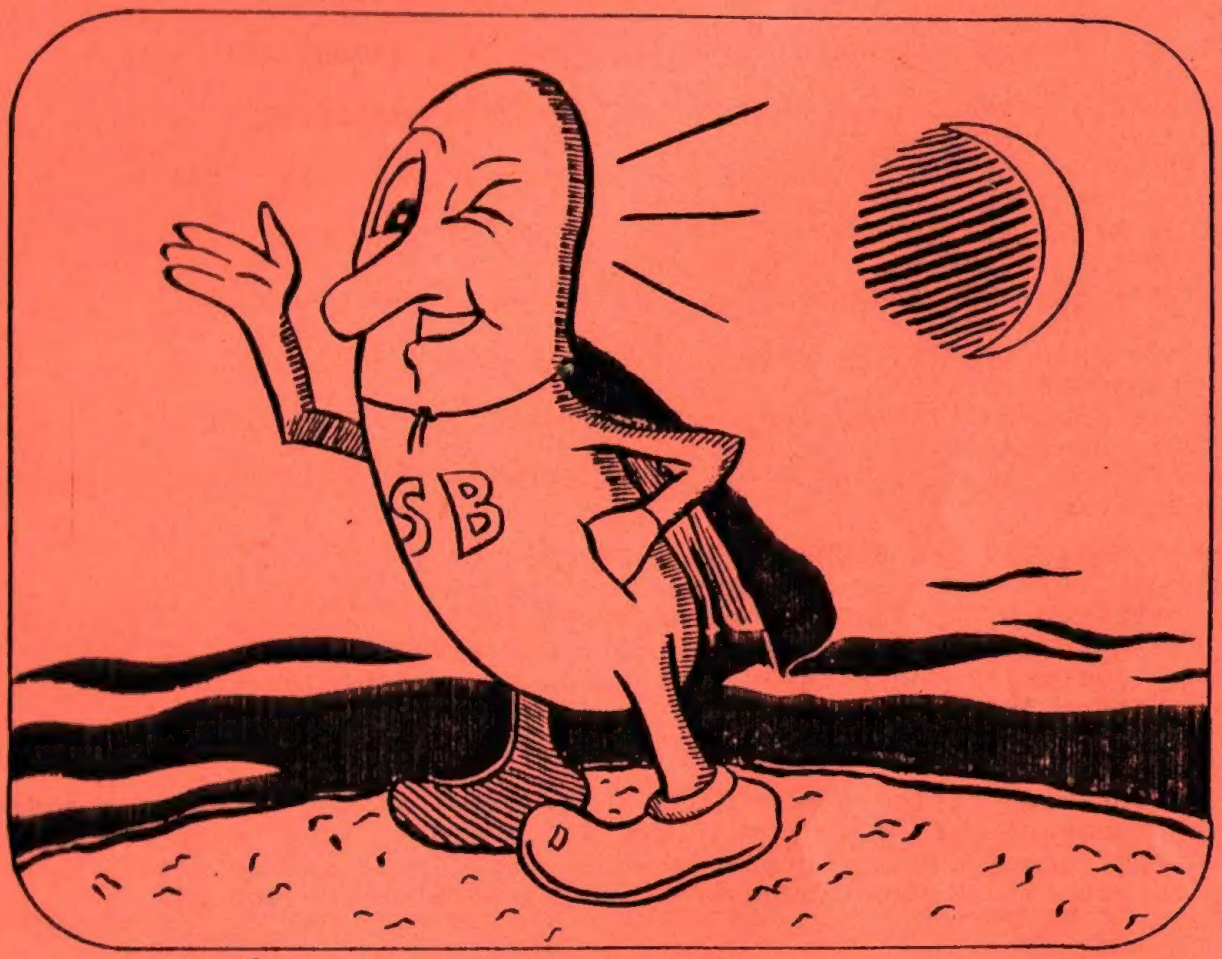
TETRAGRAMMATON FRAGMENTS



THE UNITED FANZINE ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

1) Will Bynum,Rt. 2,Box 100,Bryant,Al. 35959(1.50)
FRONTIERS 86 (Feb. 87)
2) Sam Gafford,275E Scituate Ave.,Cranston,RI 02920(.87)
SEZ WHO(Oct. 86)
3)Bill Hall,10 Farm Hill Rd.,Middletown,Ct. 06457(3.07)
Ditkomania(March 87)
4)Jim Main,125 Fort Hill St.,#3,New Milford,Conn. 06776(.53)
*PPFSZT!,OM(Jan. 87)
5)Ross Riahala,802 Hawthorne St.,Cloquet,Mn. 55720(.75)
Moonstone(Dec. 86)
6)Steve Keeter,1003 E. Amelia St.,Orlando,Fla. 32803(.21)
MANTRA(Dec. 86)
7)Gene Kehoe,6223 Forest Ave.,Des Moines,Iowa 50311(.53)
Its A FANZINE(March 87)
8)Jeff Wood,6056 Wellesley Way N.E.,Seattle,Wash. 98115(.53)
PLASMA,PERIHELLION(March 87)
9)Larry Blake,Rt. 1,Reedsville,Ohio 45772(1.75)
AFTERWORLD,BLAKE MAIL MATERIAL(Dec. 86)
10)Wade Busby,4028 54th st.,S.W.,Seattle,Wash. 98116(2.75)
BRIGADE(Dec. 86)
11)Steve Shipley,2157 Glenwood Ave.,Toledo,Ohio(2.50)
FANTASCAPE(Feb. 87)
12)Allen Freeman,125 Laralan Ave.,Frankfort,Ky.40601(3.25)
Slam Bang(March 87)

Subscribers:

Joeseph Shea,517 9th St,Washington,DC(20003(96)
N. Caputo,1916 Grove St.,Ridgewood,NY(11325(94)
Don Fortier,P.O. Box 306,Kenner,LA 70063(107)
Don Ensign,6011 Agnes Ave.,Temple City,CA. 91780(97)
Stephen Jusick,16 Van Kirk Rd.,Princeton,NJ. 08540(97)
Larry Nibert,551 Mead Lane,Springfield,Ohio 45506(97)

CODES:
Date after zine title is must publish by date. Amount after your address is your account balance. Those under $1.oo please send money for account. The number after subscribers address is the # your sub ends at.
S-satisfactory...U-unsatisfactory...NV-NO VOTE(or not voted)

UFO VOTING:
ALLEN FREEMAN admitted in group!!!! AD will appear in Small Press Comic Explosion. . Satisfactory ratings for:OM #4,Ditkomania #15,Moonstone #10, Frontiers 85,Blake Mail Material,Fandom World #2,Fantascape #3,Plasma #5.

Its a Fanzine #31- 4-S,5-NV....Ditkomania #16-2-S,7-NV...Frontiers 86-2-S..3-U..3-NV
STEVE KEETER FOR UFO CHAIRMAN-has been seconded.Any other contenders,PLEASE ANNOUNCE YOUR CANDINCY NOW!!!!

TETRAGRAMMATON FRAGMENTS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITED FANZINE ORGANIZATION!!!
Tetragrammaton Fragments is the official newsletter of the United Fanzine Organization(UFO)and is sent to members and subscribers for 75¢ an issue, or $4.00 for a 6 issue subscription.

If you wish to apply for membership,simply send a copy of your most current publication to those listed on the membership rosteerthen notify the Chairman(currently Jim Meir)of your intentions.

****

CONTENTS:

Cover-Mike Tuz

Roster,Subscriber list,UFO Voting.....Pg.3

Contents page.....Pg.4

MAIN LINES #9.....Pg.4

Between a Rock and a Hard Place.....Pg.5

Cranial Succotash#24.....Pg.6

What Am I Gonna Call This Column#3.....Pg.11

Tegra Comm #4.....Pg.13

A Little Honesty..Can really Hurt A Guy.....Pg. 15

Brain Tremors #2.....Pg.17

HOLY TOLEDO#1.....Pg.19

Re-Awakening of The Grim One #9.....Pg.21

Number Two.....Pg.23?

****

This is Iert...copy,Tetragrammaton Fragments #93(Vol. 8,#8)March 1986 issue. Deadline for #94 is May 10th.Don't miss it.

****

Other UFO biz:

Must Write by next issue!Sam Gafford...and new member Allen Freeman...send us a page or two like the other members do,a little auto-bio about yourself,your fubbing plans,etc. then,in your next one you can review zines, vote on interesting club issues,pick a fight...well,you get the idea. Anyway,welcome to the group!!!

The UFO CHECKLIST and Constitution will appear next issue.Anyone needing an updated version for their fanzine,please write me.You can always make up your own checklist and just add content summaries of new UFO zines as they come your way,if you're in a hurry.Well,it's late...Gotta go....

MAIN LINES #09.Produced by Grim Jim Main.135 Fort Hill St..#3.New Milford, Conn. 06776. Ph-(203)354-3406.I'm home weeknights after 9:30PM.

****

All rise...heh.heh.heh.couldn't resist that. Especially since my days as Chairman are coming closer to an end. Since we're on that subject let me point out that Steve Keeter has announced his intentions to run for Chairman in his contrib this issue. I feel strongly that steve is just the guy we need to run this group...and on that I second his nomination.Anyone else who wants to oppose Steve.Get your act together quick.

Well.the ad in SMALL PRESS COMICS EXPOSION has been passed finally.All we need now is for someone to do it. How about you,Larry Blake?I'll be getting in touch with you to discuss the whole thing. In the meantime, let's discuss how much the ad will run us.and how much it'll cost each of us. Now according to his ad rates,a full pager would cost us $12.00. Well.if you look at the roster.you'll see twelve names there. I'll cover 4th the ad.and you all can just send me a buck later...The ad should consist of cover'reprod of each zine advertised.a short description.price.and mailing address. Also the for should have a little bit about the UFO.mot unlike the summary at the beginning of each UFO CHECKLIST.I think the ad in SPCE will do us all good.

Jeff-Thanks for the copy of PLASMA #5.which I didn't even review in my other column this issue. It was quite a nice effort and I gave it an 8.Say could I get a copy of George Horsey #? from ya now? I like your proposal of a meeting of UFOers.but your location is too far for me. Maybe we easterners could get together.say in NY some time. You people on the west.well. to your own thing if you want....

A hearty welcome to Allen Freeman.publisher of SLAM BANG...Allen joins us groupies this issue as a member of the co-op.I'm looking forward to more subs from Allen soon.

Well.I must end this missive now and hit the old sack to be prepared for yet another mundane day at work at both my jobs .followed by dinner at 9:00 PM.mail matters.letters.typing.sleep.another day...etc.

All the best---

JIMBO

C.S.

CRANIAL SUCCOTASH

CRANIAL SUCCOTASH #24 (March-April, 1986) is HAPPY FACE PUBLICATION #49. Brought to you with miles of smiles by Steve Keeter/ 1003 E. Amelia St./ Orlando, Fla. 32803. Intended for TwoTonGramophone Field-Mouse #93 (vol. 9, #9).

(ILLO BY LEE JACKSON-1977)

HAPPY FACE CELEBRATION

This is my 49th fanzine. You probably read about my first zine, THE WORLDS OF EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS, in Jim Main's FANDOM WORLD #2. Well, I like to think I've come a long way since that atrocity! Anyway, what this means is that MANTRA #7 will be the big landmark --my 50th publication. And I intend to celebrate (somebody hand me a beer) by making that issue a massive 50-pager featuring the talents of Larry Blake, Jeff Gaither, Jeff Wood, Tom Roberts, Don Martinec, Steve Shipley, Mike Tuz, Tim Corrigan, Larry Hibert, and David Heath, Jr. Really big shoe.

For those Doubting Thomases out there, below is a list of all 50 of my zines (I count C.S. as a zine; I do not count flyers and Christmas Cards as zines).

1. THE WORLDS OF EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS (1969)
2. GALAXY COMICS #1 (1971)
3. CM #1 (1972)
4. CM #2 (1973)
5. BPP Newsletter #7 (vol. 2, #1) (1973)
6. BPP Newsletter #8 (vol. 2, #2) (1973)
7. CM #3 (with Jim Main) (1974)
8. BPP Newsletter #9 (vol. 2, #3) (1974)
9. BPP Newsletter #10 (vol. 2, #4) (1974)
10. BPP Newsletter #11 (vol. 2, #5) (1974)
11. BPP Newsletter #12 (vol. 2, #6) (1974)
12. BPP/UFC Newsletter #13 (vol. 2, #7) (1974)
13. UFC Newsletter #14 (vol. 2, #8) (1974)
14. UFC Newsletter #15 (vol. 2, #9) (1974)
15. United Crudzine Organization #1 (1974)
16. SITA #1 (for Mike Raub's APA) (1974)
17. LCC #1 (1974)
18. MANTRA #1 (1974)
19. UFC Newsletter 16 (vol. 2, #10)(1974)
20. FROM [illegible] #1 (1974)
21. [illegible] #2 (1974)contained LCC #2)
22. FROM [illegible] #2 (1974)
23. YOU DYSSA SOCKA #3 (1975)
24. OKAY, SO I [illegible] #4 (1975)
25. LCC Vol. 2, #2 (1975)
26. THE VIEWERS: Part One (1975)
27. THE VIEWERS: Part Two (1975)
28. THE VIEWERS: Part Three (1975)
29. THE VIEWERS: Part Four (1975) (The series appeared in the ML)
30. REPRISE #5 (1976)
31. REPRISE #6 (1976)
32. REPRISE #7 (1976)
33. KURT, WHAT THE HELL--?!! #8 (1976)
34. REPRISE #9 (1976)
35. REPRISE #10 (1976)
36. REPRISE #11 (1977)
37. REPRISE #12 (1977)
38. REPRISE #13 (1977)
39. MANTRA #3 (1977)
40. REPRISE #14 (1977)
41. REPRISE #15 (1977)
42. REPRISE #16 (distributed to Apa-Alpha, Apa-5, and IF) (1977)
43. REPRISE 17 (1977)
44. MANTRA #4 (1979)
45. MANTRA #5 (1982)
46. MANTRA #6 (1985)
47. REPRISE #18 (1985)

48. REPRISE #19 (1985)
49. REPRISE #20 (1985)
50. CRANIAL SUCCOTASH #21 (1985)
51. CRANIAL SUCCOTASH #22 (1985)
52. CH #4 (1985)
53. CRANIAL SUCCOTASH #23 (1986)
54. CRANIAL SUCCOTASH #24 (1986)
55. MANTRA #7 (1986)

AAACCCKKK!!! OH NO!! My numbering system has been wrong all these years, and I just realized it! How could I have counted all those zines wrong?

Oh well, never mind. I'll just have to number MANTRA #7 "55", as indicated above, and go on from there. But the celebration is on, anyway!

Give me another beer. And an aspirin.

VOTING

Here's a "yes" vote for placing the co-op ad in SMALL PRESS COMICS EXPLOSION. I don't think we can go wrong by supporting Tim's extremely worthwhile publication.

That reminds me. Jim tells me that his ambitious FANDOM WORLD is in limbo again, and that's a shame. But Jim did me a great favor by working out a deal wherein Tim gets my "Fandom Profiles" column for his newszine. Thanks, Jim!

Does this mean that HEROIC is finally going to come out?

HELLO, GOOD-BYE

I hated to see Don Martinec bow out of the group due to his inability to publish on time; he'll definitely be missed. It is hoped that he'll reapply to the co-op whenever FIAWOLM finally comes out.

But, welcome, Steve Shipley! Another of the Old Guard fanzine pubbers joins the co-op, and the result is that we have the best of the old and the best of the new!

LARRY BLAKE

It was a blast talking with you over the phone! You sounded exactly as I expected you to sound... intelligent and friendly.

Hey, I've been a Monkees fan for years. I can remember my two brothers and I watching the show from the very first episode. MTV is going to be airing episodes of the series every weekend, which is good news, 'cause the 22+ solid hours of Monkees they aired recently was a huge success. Everybody I talked to that day had been watching it! They called it Pleasant Valley Sunday, after the song of course.

SAM GAFFORD

Hey, where's ETERNITY?!

SOME THOUGHTS ON TURNING 30

Yep; in April, I reach the big 3-0. And it's a time of decision in my life. Feel like I've wasted a lotta years working in boring, mundane jobs and I'm not getting anywhere. So, I've decided to return to college sometime during the next year. I went to East Carolina University a decade back and had a terrific time. Unfortunately, all I did was party for two-and-a-half years (Bluto had nothing on me!), and I ended up flunking out. This time, I'm gonna do it right. Hopefully, this won't affect my fanac too much.

VOTE FOR ME, I'LL GET YOU FREE

That's correct; your eyes are not deceiving you. I intend to run for chairman this year. I held that position once before --in the early '70s when I revived the BPO (Blue Plaque Publications) co-op after its collapse under the capable hands of Carl Gafford (I'm not blaming Carl here; that sentence didn't come out right. It wasn't his fault.)* I published ten issues of the BL, and helped bring about the name change to the UFO. In fact, I'm the guy who invited Jim Main to join. So, naturally, if Jimbo doesn't vote for me, I'll have to pull his card out. As chairman, I'll go to offset for TF, and maybe monthly. I'd also like to advertise the UFO extensively, as it's becoming such a good zine in itself that I think more fans really ought to see it.

* IT WAS SAM'S FAULT!! (JUST KIDDING, SAM)

SLAM BANG #1 (Allen Freeman)

I don't like the dark red color of the covers. Even though the art is fair enough, something about the dark paper is depressing. Lighter colors are more attractive and bring out the art more. Inside, however, this book is actually quite good. Even the fiction pieces are much superior to typical fan fiction, notably Richard Allen Leesman's hilarious "Job Description." Tim Corrigan did his usual quality job on the absurd "Fred & Marvin". I was especially knocked out by "Another Dead Friendship" (Talking Heads lyrics on the first page) with the stylish pencilling of Lee Baker and competent inks by Jeff Gaither. "SLAM BANG Gallery #1" was okay --I'm not into pin-ups. But my favorite part of the issue was the page of fan bios. John P. Morgan's was a killer!

I'm voting "YES" for the admittance of Allen Freeman into the UFO... and look forward to future SLAM BANGs.

(ILLO BY LEE JACKSON - 1971)

PLASMA #5 (Jeff Wood)

This reminds me a lot of my own MANTRA. Like the new issue of my own zine, PLASMA #5 has a Larry Blake Nightshade frontcover and a Blake Nightshade strip. And with such wonderful cover-to-cover comix, how could I help by love this issue? The latest Snowbuni escapade was the best yet, not only due to El Blak-o's fine inks, but also due to the tightest scripting and bestest Woody artwork ever. "Wizard's Tower" was a great deal better than the stuff Kent Featherly did for #4. Pretty funny stuff. The princess looked like Betty, from Archie comics. The aforementioned Nightshade strip was the expected delight. But what happened to the rapist? Did Nightshade just leave him lying there in the alley, did she turn him in to the police? Larry, you out there? If this guy's still walking around, I'm gonna buy some mace.

SUBSATISSFACTORY.

FANTASCAPE #3 (Steven Mark Shipley)

My pal Steve's first UFO zine is a triumph in every way. A very nice Mac/Shipley frontcover and (Ulp!) yet another beautiful Larry Blake (Nightshade!) backcover surround a treasure trove of delightful entertaining strips by the editor himself. "Holy War" is certainly starting to get interesting. If Uncle Conscience doesn't escape from jail soon, I may not be able to sleep nights. "The Hawk and the Dove" is well-scripted, somewhat disturbing, and manages quite well at conveying its message. "Space Duck" is pretty professional-looking... nice logo there. A more than SATISFACTORY effort, as Steve's zines always are.

FANBOY WORLD #2 (Jim Main)

Immediately noticeable about the second issue of FANBOY WORLD are the new logo and column heading designed by Tim Corrigan. These definitely improve the appearance of the zine. The Phantom article was okay --nothing new here, but the story needs to be retold from time to time (as it always is in the syndicated strip). D.B. Bishop's examination

of FIREBALL XL5, a program that I loved as a kid, almost caught my attention, but was not long enough to be satisfying. "Stern Wheeler" and the other strips were as good as expected. In summation, the first issue had more meat, but the second issue looks better. I think I missed "Shadow of the 11th Row." I lament the passing of FANDOM WORLD. The potential was definitely there, but it would have taken some time and patience (not to mention $$$) to capture the type of sizable audience that the notorious COMICS BUYERS GUIDE has duped into blind loyalty.

SATISFACTORY.

FRONTIERS '86... THE FANZINE #2 (Will Bynum)

FRONTIERS '86 #2 already has one up on the first issue in that there are some real comics and an article this time. And if everything in the book was as awe-inspiring at "There's Something in the Treehouse," the zine would be a huge success. John Brien's amusing fantasy script and Mark Lampert's (this guy is rapidly becoming one of my favorit fan artists) realistic renderings make for an utterly professional work. Unfortunately, after this strip, we are left with "The Truck," which, despite Lampert's art, was little more than a repulsive idea, "Brother Wolf," which had a fair script but terribly scratchy and rushed-looking inks, and an interview with Elliot Roden which features art samples that fail to convince the reader of this guy's worth. I think you're on the right track and hope my comments won't be taken as any sort of slight. You are improving and will continue to improve. The mag does reflect that indomitable spirit of fun and fannishness that redeems so many borderline cases, and that makes FRONTIERS #2 SATISFACTORY.

IT'S A FANZINE #31 (Gene Kehoe)

I've just about run out of superlatives to describe this fanzine. The only thing I can think of right off that I'd personally like to see changed is that I'd like to see more fanzine reviews and analyses in lieu of so much pro comic talk. You manage to elicit a good deal of intelligent commentary not only in your lettercol (and the longer the better on those), but also in your often painstakingly researched and insightful articles and columns. I couldn't manage to instill within myself any real interest in Harry Miller's "Precursors of Modern Comics Art," but I recognize the importance of what he is pointing out and I respect the hard work that was undoubtedly involved in the writing of the piece. "The Teenage Creations of Steve Gerber" was, again, right up my alley. A lot of fascinating fan history here, and a lot of great memories. Fred Gorham's frontcover is fantastic!

SATISFACTORY hardly seems a good enough word to describe this endeavor.

BRIGADE COMICS #5 (Wade Busby)

Well, waalll rriiggnhtt... this is more like it. The first thing that struck me upon leafing through BRIGADE #5 was the improvement in the artwork. There is genuine innate talent involved here, and it will be interesting to watch as Wade's artistry continues to develop over time. There is some neat stuff here --like the overhead view of the construction disaster on page 10 and the distinctive way some of the faces are drawn (Headbanger at the bottom of page 8 or Ken's visage at the top of page 9. These faces have character.). The story is also of a quite high quality, with all sorts of curious little sub-plots popping up now and then. I got a good feeling from watching the reunion of "Nate" and "Nick" at the conclusion of the issue. The sort of character profile that Jeff Wood did on page 15 might make a good idea for a series. A page each issue, describing a different Busby creation each time, would serve to keep the reader in the know about the numerous weird heroes that are cavorting in these fannish pages.

SATISFACTORY. Keep up the good work.

UFO HISTORY CORNER #4

February, 1974: BPP Newsletter #10 (vol. 2, #4) goes out in living purple ditto from Steve Keeter to members Rod Snyder, Jack Monninger, Jim Main, Kurt Erichsen, and new/old member Chuck Robinson II. SKeet lays the groundwork for a minor furor by admitting Chuck Robinson into the group without a vote of the members, due to the fact that CERII's zine, COMICUS, was a previous member of Blue Plaque Publications under Carl Gafford.

(ILLO BY LEE JACKSON - 1971)

For the first time in the new Blue Phoenix Publications Newsletter, letters from the members are featured, retyped on ditto masters by the chairman. Jim Main (editor of #PPFSZT! and SPECTRUM) takes issue with SKeeter's criticism of DC for printing so many Bob Kane reprints. Says he: "What's wrong with Bob Kane doing BATMAN? Are you forgetting his art on the first BATMAN strips. . . ? They were GREAT!" SKeet replies below, "No. . . but neither am I forgetting the crap that Bob Kane turned out later." UNREAL and ESCARCTH EXPRESS editor Rod Snyder comments on the rarity of the fanzine co-op. ECLIPSE editor Jack Monniger has a few ideas: "I think perhaps the nl should have a cover -- sort of a zine in itself. . . .the nl should come out every 3 weeks. . . . it would be nice if other editors could start a little newsletter (I really don't have any idea as to what on)." Jack goes on to suggest prices member zines should charge for their zines based on whether they're printed ditto or offset, and brag about his zine featuring "the FINEST amateurs I can find (or semi-pros)." SKeet responds to this in true Reagan fashion with, "There you go with that pro stuff again. Quote: 'If a competitor. . . offers quality (pro art in almost entirety). . .'. Pro art doesn't always mean quality." He also notes, "We don't have the right to determine the price of any applicant's fanzine."

Around the same time, ENDEAVOR editor Kurt Erichsen pops up with a second issue of his own newsletter (forerunner to the self-produced TF contributions of today) ENDEAVORETTE. Kurt mentions DATELINE: COMICDOM editor Mike Raub (whose name was a notorious fan term of the time --To "mikeraub" meant to agitate suddenly without further notice.) as a potential applicant. More about this next time, as I now see that Kurt was commenting on NL #5 (vol. 2), rather than #4. (Don't you love the stream-of-consciousness way I do these things? It's like baring my soul to the world.)

SKEET, ENUFF IS ENUFF!

Okay, I can take a hint! Five pages is enough rambling for anybody.
But just wait 'til next time...

Best,

SKEETER

Steve Keeter

What am I gonna call this column

o 3 o

Whew! MTV ran all 45 Monkees episodes, so I filled four tapes with them. Of course that's not much compared to 30 tapes of Doctor Who...

Hey! To those of you who haven't subscribed to Small Press Comics Explosion, do so! $3, $6, $9, and $12 subscriptions are offered for ...3,6,9, and 12 months respectively. It's monthly and has been amazingly consistant!

Write to:

Tim Corrigan
45 Wilcox St.
Rochester, N.Y. 14607

Yeah, some type of UFO ad could eventually be prepared for it!

Are some of us trying to outdo each other in checklist design, or am I being paranoid?

Will Bynum suggested I provide a summary of the Brigade adventures and character backgrounds since most of the UFO people got started in the middle.

Yeah, I'll put something of that sort in Brigade 6.

But really though, what's the point since the Brigade will end as of issue 10? I'm bored to death of supes. It's a reworked genre that has been around for half a century. I'm getting out while I can but I must tie up this storyline in order to move right into the next project...

Thanks for *PPFSZT #12, Jim. I liked it but it's a little late to comment on it. One way to pronounce it is by forcing air out through a closed mouth...right?

Slam Bang #'s 1 & 2 - Both are excellent and disturbing books. I like looking through them again and again. I vote for Allen Freeman to be in. How 'bout you?

Fandom World #2 - Jim, I'm SATISFIED. I enjoyed the look at the Phantom and SKeeter's article on crudzines was quite funny.

Plasma #5 - A plausable explanation for what happened to Snowbunni. "Geoff Hayes' " pencils are wonderful with Larry Blake's skilled inking on top. I eagerly await the Nightshade/Snowbunni team-up. Wizard's Tower was funny and had okay art. Blake's Nightshade was nice to see. Quite SATISFIED, Jeff.

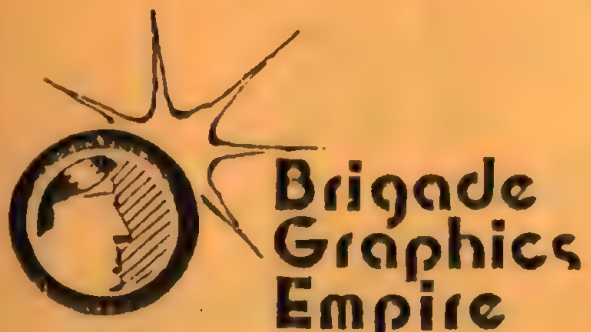
Fantascape #'s 2 & 3 - Phileo's realization at the end of "White Rose" in 2 was very effective. Both books contain great stories and vibrant art. I'm SATISFIED, Steve.

IAF #31 - Well, my copy was bent up in the mail...
No...great issue! The big, long articles on informative stuff is great. I've been discollecting comics so the opinions and reviews don't mean much. Nevertheless, I'm really SATISFIED, Gene.

Anything that has been overlooked has not been received as of the last day in Feb.
Golly...short month. It gave the illusion of a lack of time for me to complete Brigade 6. Hopefully, you'll see it about the time this arrives at your place of residence.

Keep in touch.

Wade Busby



Wade Busby
4023 54th Ave. S.W.
Seattle, WA 98116

↑
I'm going to change the name after the Brigade ends.

PSUEDO COMICS

(1)

This is

TETRA COMM # 4

More or less published by Jeff Wood.

Gooooood evening, boys and girls. Welcome to Tetra Comm #4. Heh heh heh. Can YOU say,.. Tetragrammaton Fragments? Gooooooooooooooooooood!!!!!!

And now Uncle Geoffrey is going to tell you some stories,... starting with this thriller we call,... ZINE REVIEWS!!

FANDOM WORLD #1: Great Stuff! Love that THUNDER Agents article and art peice. Enjoyed zine reviews,too. Skeeter has a real talent for injecting them with enthusiasm. Very satisfactory.

Fandom World #2: I seem to remember Fireball XL5. Maybe on old daytime reruns or something. Fandom profiles was alot of fun. NONO Jim not the chainsaw!!!! Your a brave man, Skeets. Especially pubbing the cover of one of YOUR crudzines. Nobodies gonna see any of MINE, if I can help it! SATISFACTORY plus.

And thanks for the TOY COLECTORS JOURNAL. Some good reading in this, too, and Im not even a collector. How can you publish ALL THESE ZINES, Jim?

Frontiers #2: Hmmmmmmm. Tough decision. Both Lamport strips are really good, but thats about all. They really deserved better than this. The overall quality of this zine was very poor again. And the worst is that cover,... not only is it a copy of an already existing artwork, but it is a very poor copy. Im sorry, Will, your enthusiasm is commendable but it would take more than that too make this issue work. UNSATISFACTORY. Work on your presentation, and best of luck with your next zine.

On the other end of the spectrum:

Its A Fanzine #31: Really slick! Lotsa good articles, good artwork, and overall good production. The one thing that might improve it that I mentioned to Gene was that I prefer that he grade comics on a CURVE, instead of a flat scale. That way there would be more diversity of grade. And how about that LOONEY BIN? THAT guy should be a CAR SALESMAN!!! (Obviousely he doesnt colect comics, but hype-zines.) SATISFACTORY plus plus plus.

AFTERWORLD #7: Great cover!! Love it. However, I know that Mr. Blake can draw at least that good. And Morningstar is probably the most exciting villaineous since Vicky Ashtoreth. Morningstar is gorgeous, confused and very, very powerful,... a worthy opponent to Nightshade. Drop the contributed stuff, tho, Larry. It just detracts from your art.

AFTERWORLD #8: The first mini-story is really great. So Nightshade drops in on you at 4 am? I always hate it when my fictional characters drop in on me. They drink all my beer and swipe my copies of AFTERWORLD. Where was I? Oh yeah,... about the pilgrim: I dunno. The artwork

was outstanding, as usual. but I couldnt seem to get a grasp on what was going on. I read "REFLECTIONS" many times, this is probably the best story of the book. Good story, makes one think. Reminds me of "Weird War." Not just SATISFACTORY, but outstanding.

STRANGE WAYS was, of course, quite strange. Ive never even been to a KISS concert. From the reviews, though, it must be a combination of HEAVY METAL and World War II. But I liked all the Blake artwork. The zine is wotth the three dollar cover price just for that. Even though I havent paid for it yet. I will, Larry, dont give up yet!!

FANTASCAPE #3: More great stuff from Shipley! You cant do this, Steve, your gonna make the rest of us look bad. Deeper meanings, insight, compassion, and fandom enthusiasm are all included in this fanzine. "Holy War" I find particularly interesting as I have never read the original book by John Bunyan. SATISFACTORY

PLASMA #5: Wow, wotta great fanzine! What earth-shaking revelations! What incredible artwork, what poise of meaning, what soul-searing truths and boundless infinite meanings-- What? I cant review my own zine? Awwwwwwwwwwww,.....

SLAM BANG #2 wasnt nearly as enjoyable as #1. I think its because of the 'underground' flavor which I find so distasteful. I did like the Corrigan contrib, he's always got something humorous to say. I still like SLAM BANG, Alan, but where is "The Land of Zann" and some of the other neat concepts you were working on? SATISFACTORY, though, because of the high production standards and enthusiasm.

BRIGADE #5: For a full-length comic, this one was suprisingly vague. The battle scenes in particular; who was where hitting who?? The cover art was some of the best Busby Ive seen, very effective. Hey, people, a crane really DID fall in downtown Seattle. You might not realize it, but Wade is incorporating actual incidents into BRIGADE. This is a good comic, Wade, but I want to see more Moonshadow and the Lady Lizard. Satisfactory, of course.

SPECIAL OFFER

Hey, UFO subscribers, want to buy some of these Psuedo Comics you've read about?? I tell ya what, I'll sell any Psuedo Comic to you for half price! Thats right, get any and all Psuedo Comics for 50% off just for being a UFO subscriber! Write!

A PROPOSAL

This is a difficult proposition. Lemme put it this way: Wouldnt it be fun to get all the people on the UFO roster together in one place? Maybe at a big comic con, where we could have an advertised meeting. "UFO member meeting in Room 201, directly following the "beat-up Jim Shooter meeting" '. I suggest the San Diego Con, or perhaps the Dallas Fantasy Festival. Whadday'all think? How many of us could attend such a meeting? ? Where at? When? Who? (Us, and everybody else that might be interested.) Why? Cuz it'll be alot of fun!!!!

UPCOMING FROM PSUEDO COMICS

Ive got alot of stuff lined up for Perihelion #3, will just have to wait and see how much of that materializes. Release date,... July 1st?

Ive used up my entire backlog of stories, so I dont know how long it'll be untill PLASMA #6. Ive got a few possibilities floating around, but again I'll just be playing it by ear. Anybody want to contribute? I PAY for contributions. Write for details.

Im cancelling Georgey Horsey. This wont kill Georgey himself,.. any stories involving him will be printed in PLASMA; including the twenty page LOST IN THE DARK SIDE story that was originally slated for Georgey #3. Incidentally, Georgey #3 is published. Y'all will be recieving a copy as soon as I get another batch printed up. All gone right now.

HONORABLE MENTION: NON-UFO ZINES

Spaced Outlaws #1. Lightwood #1. SMALL PRESS COMICS EXPLOSION #1 and #2.

VOTING

I vote 'yes' on a full-page add in both SPCE and CBG. You said you were gonna pay for 'em, right Jim? Jim?

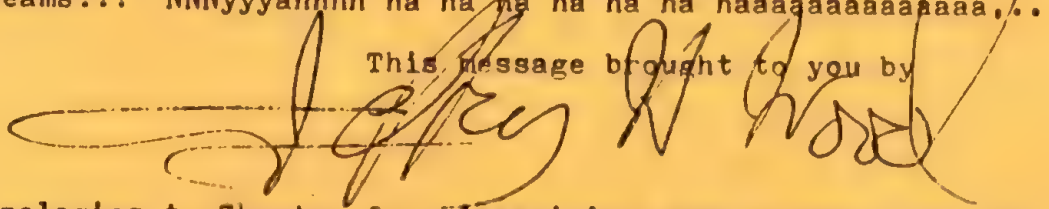
GIMME A CALL SOMETIME

(206) 547-8671. If Im not here you can listen to my Alfred Hitchcock impersonation on my answering machine, and then leave a message of your own. Be creative.

CONCLUSION

Sooooo, boys and girls, did you enjoy your bedtime story with Uncle Geoffrey?? Tune in with us next time as we continue our journey into the twisted world of the comic book editor. Aaaaaaaaand now,..... pleasant dreams!!! NNNyyyahhhh ha ha ha ha ha ha haaaaaaaaaaaaaaa,....

This message brought to you by



Sincerest apologies to Skeeter for plagerizing some artwork from the latest contrib to his zine for this column. I was being lazy, and happened to have that extra page on my desk,....

Hey Larry: How do I go about obtaining a trademark? I know a certain big-eyed bunny who'd like to have her very own trademark. Does anybody else have any information? Hello?

Jim (Grimmy): Tanks mucho for the call. Whup, I checked my file: I DID"NT send you a copy of PLASMA!! Sorry!! You should have a copy by now.

A LITTLE HONESTY ... CAN REALLY HURT A GUY

from Gene Kehoe of It's A Fanzine infamy

I'm somewhat behind in my reviewing of the UFO fanzines (some may call most of these "small press comics", but they're all fanzines to me), so be prepared for a quick batch of gut-wrenchingly (!?) honest reviews. I'll abide by the standard '1' to '10' rating system, with anything scoring '5' or lower being unsatisfactory in my eyes. There'll be no "you scratch my back I'll scratch yours" here. More constructive criticism is needed if all these zines are to improve.

FRONTIERS '86 #2. Elliott Roden's obsession with horror is displayed in his cover (ripped off from Tomb of Dracula #43) and in an interview. I like Mark Lamport's art--he's got potential. The writing and the rest of the art doesn't make it. Layouts are improved. *5*
DITKOMANIA #15 & 16. #15 features a fine article by Gordon Matthews and other articles that cry out for panel repros to better illustrate the topics being discussed. Enjoy the letters, the strips not as much. #16 lacked meat. Looking forward to the Ditko checklist. *8*
PERIHELION #2. A chaotic zine, but there's plenty to read here with lots of variety. Jeff has some ability (but I can't believe he knows next to nothing about Steve Ditko. Does Jeff read comics?)*7*
BRIGADE COMICS #5. Competent fan super-team stuff. The writing is better than the art. Okay, but not my cup of tea. *6*
PLASMA #5. Four lightweight but fun stories, and three out of the four even have good art (only "Wizard's Tower" was badly drawn). *7*
OM #4. Some of the best Larry Blake art I've seen, but the rest of the art (except for Ronn Sutton's lovely old inside back cover) is weak, and much of the writing is trite. "Chess-toons" is cute. *7*
SLAM BANG #1. Bad front cover, excellent back cover. The fan fiction is actually pretty good and is the strongest stuff here. A 10-page gallery of single illos could be considered overkill. A well laid out package that could use lengthier strips. *6*
MOONSTONE #10. Like everyone else, I hate computer type, but this fan newszine has improved a lot. It's packed with information, though more critical reporting would be helpful. Should be published more often, and could use more art to break up the type. *7*
BLAKEMAIL MATERIAL #1. This collection of silly covers and the like would be great if not for all the Kiss art. Those jerks don't deserve any adolation. Loved "What If John Stanley Drew the X-Men". Also "Yosemite Hex". Not much to read here but still fun. *8*
FANDOM WORLD #2. How can Jim sell this for 50¢? Most of the typing mistakes have been eliminated, and the production and printing are good. Very good Phantom article, and Keeter's fandom column is entertaining for an old fan like myself. Reducing the type some would allow for more material to be packed into this old-fashioned tabloid. I'm looking forward to this zine going somewhere. *8*
FANTASCAPE #1-3. Everybody else seems to love this, but I say it's offensive and I say (in deference to Mr. Shipley) to <u>heck</u> with it. "The Invaders" in #1 is just plain inaccurate and stupid. The religious messages here are definitely <u>not</u> subtle -- intelligent people don't need to be hit over the head. The dialogue is ridiculous, the art about the worst to be found in a UFO zine. Why are mainstream comics characters used on the cover of a religious comic? This is blatantly misleading. Should come with a warning label. The production values are in fact excellent, so we'll give this a 3.

BRAIN TREMORS #2

Will Bynum
Rt. 2, Box 100
Bryant, AL 35958

Sorry this is being penned instead of typed, but my type-writer is currently preparing for a journey to that last great type-writer frontier... the garbage dump. Hopefully, I'll have a brand new one by next issue of T.F.

On to business, of sorts: Admit Allen Freeman, by all means. Slam Bang #1 proves he can put together a zine just as well as he can draw. (And he is a genius with pen and brush, as we all know.)

Several of you have asked about Crusaders. #1 was not a U.F.O. zine because it was planned, drawn, etc.; before we were admitted to the club.

A problem with #2 being a U.F.O. zine is the checklist: It's just not got room enough for the checklist, without the added cost of another plate or....too much, needless to say. Oh, well... if we can figure that one out, #2 will be a U.F.O. book.

Hey, that would help the organization, as it is a nationally distributed book. How about some suggestions? Better hurry, though. #2 will be out soon. (suggestions, James?)

Got Fandom World #2. Liked it. Satisfactory. That and Slam Bang #1 is the only zines I've received recently. Oh! Except Fantascape #2, which I can't remember if I voted on or not. Regardless, it was very satisfactory.

We hope you all found "Frontiers '86... The Fanzine #2" a lot better than #1. We were able to put a lot more care and time and love into it than into the first. All of you please let me know how you liked it.

Also, please send us contributions. We'd really like to do a U.F.O. Edition with #3 or #4. Whereas #1 was All-Pin-Ups, #2 was all-horror, #3 could be All-Anything, as long as the contributors are U.F.O. Members. This is official notification, in case I don't get around to asking you all individually, so get busy! Also, as you send in contrib.'s, send a mini-bio, too, okay, for the "U.F.O. Personalities Pages." Jim- How about a short U.F.O. -History, too?

Well, that's about it this time around. All of you keep in touch, okay? Wm Breuer

#1

HOLY TOLEDO

MAR.-'86

STEVEN MARK SHIPLEY

2157 GLENWOOD TOL. OH. 43620

FIRST I'D LIKE TO THANK ALL YOU GUYS FOR YOUR "YES" VOTES. IT'S GREAT TO BE ABOARD!! TO ME, COMICS ARE A GREAT FORM OF COMMUNICATION. THIS COMMUNICATION CAN BE A SIMPLE ESCAPE ***FROM*** REALITY, OR IT CAN SHAKE UP & WAKE UP THE READER ***TO*** REALITY. IT IS MY HOPE THAT MY COMICS, WETHER IN "FANTASCAPE" OR OTHER ZINES, WILL FULFILL AND CONVEY BOTH!

BEST ZINE I'VE GOTTEN SO FAR IS OM#4! I'M WAITING FOR ONE TO BEAT IT!

SPEAKING OF ZINES---HERE'S MY HUMBLE OPINIONS OF THE RECENT PUBLICATIONS THAT I'VE RECEIVED!

GEORGY HORSEY#3 - GREAT ZINE! GOOD ART, PRINTING, AND PRODUCTION!

BRIGADE #5 - WELL WRITTEN, GOOD ART, GOOD LAYOUT, GREAT PRINTING, GREAT JOB!

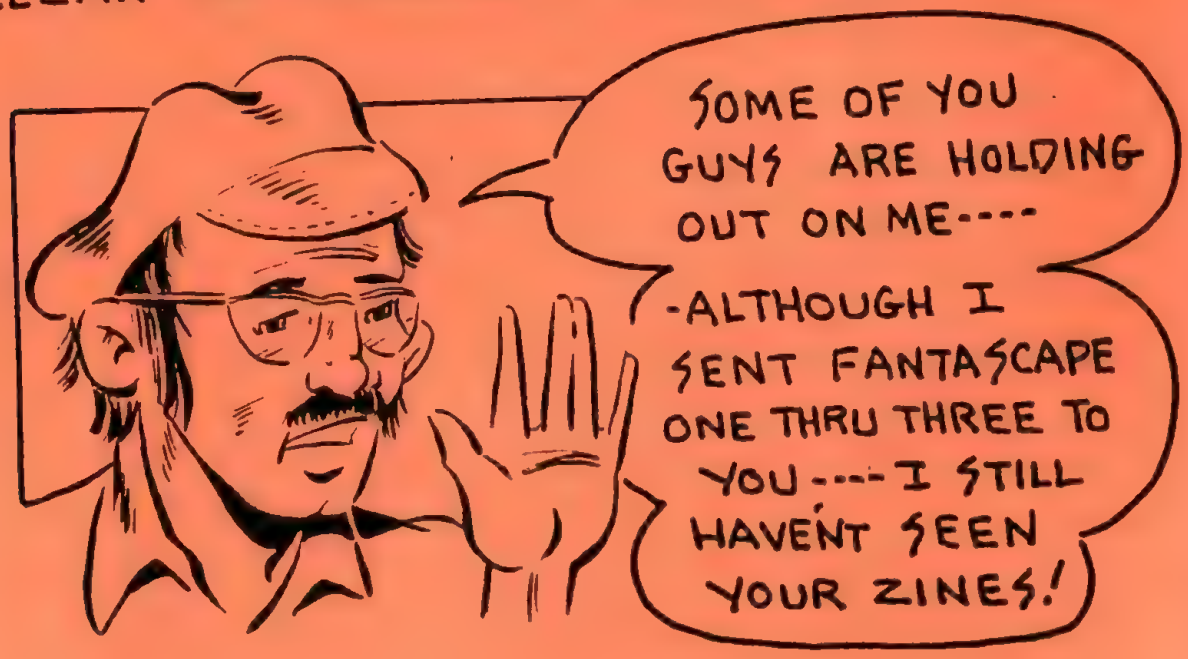
PLASMA #5 - A DEFINATE IMPROVEMENT OVER #4 -- PRIMARILY DUE TO LARRY BLAKES FANTASTIC "NIGHTSHADE" STRIP AND HIS INKS ON "SNOW-BUNI."

FRONTIERS '86 - PITIFUL PRINTING, BAD PRODUCTION, CHILDISH ART, UNREADABLE!

SLAM BANG #1+2 - FUN STUFF! I VOTE ***YES*** ON ALLEN FREEMAN! HE'S GOING TO BE A GREAT ADDITION TO THE U.F.O.!

I DON'T WANT TO USE MY COLUMN IN T.F. AS A SPRINGBOARD FOR RELIGIOUS DEBATE, SO IF ANY OF YOU GUYS HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS CONCERNING MY FAITH---- FEEL FREE TO WRITE ME PERSONALLY!

FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS I'VE SERVED AS SENIOR PASTOR OF "TOLEDO HOME FELLOWSHIP", A FUNDAMENTAL, EVANGELICAL CHURCH. PLEASE DON'T STEREO-TYPE ME, THOUGH! I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THE JERRY FALWELL IMAGE. ON SUNDAYS, I PREACH IN BLUE JEANS AND A SWEATSHIRT! I PICKET AT ABORTION CLINICS (I ***DON'T*** BOMB THEM!), VISIT JAILS AND PRISONS, FEED POOR FAMILIES, DO MARRIAGE COUNSELING, WORK WITH ALCOHOLICS AND DRUG ADDICTS, AND SO ON AND SO ON. SOMETIMES I WISH I HAD A FEW AVENGERS OR X-MEN BY MY SIDE --- BUT SAD TO SAY--- THERE ARE NO SUPER-HEROES AROUND TO HELP CLEAN UP AMERICA'S GUTTERS!



MAIN LINES #9,Produced by the Great Jim Main,who resides at 12E Fort Hill St.,#C,New Milford,Conn. 06776. In case you want to call,the number is: (203)354-3406.

Well,it's been some month. For financial reasons I've had to cancell FANDOM WHRLD for the time being. The ad revenue and subscriptions were not there. But,hey,I gave it a try.I'm glad you all enjoyed the publication.Hopefully, the UFO got some good exposure through the circulation it had.
I do have another expensive project in the works,something that's mentioned in SMALL PRESS COMICS EXPLOSION #3 for those interested. Anything else? Yeah,matter of fact there is...I'll be handling OM with #5 on. Steve was going to cancell it and concentrate on MANTRA. Me,being the person I am, with all this free time,decided to take it off his hands. The major reason being to dispell the rumors that I am not capable of producing a good issu of that particular publication. Ah,if you UFOers couldve just seen that greatly discussed issue of OM #3...Well,let me tell you,some people just have no sense of humor...But,as I have assured Steve that I won't make the same mistakes. He must've believed me as he gave me the zine. Sucker.

Now for some zine reviews,courtesy of me:

FRONTIERS '86:This zine has some appeal to me by way of the Lamperd work, but I really think Elliot R. is a little bit overated. Your UFO issue sounds interesting. I'd like to see it happen. PROPOSED FRONTIER F
I'll give this a 6 though.

SLAM BANG #1: This zine is quite interesting and has a good balance of material. Front cover bothered me just a bit though. You get an admittance vote from me,Mr. Freeman. Welcome aboard.

FANTASCAPE #3: Well done as usual Steve. Very good stories and excellent production values on this,your first UFO zine. *8*

DITTOMANIA #16: Nice cover art,Bill,but the way the logo and UFO emblem are placed seem a little awkward. Nice selection of art,comics and articles throughout. Still in need of an editorial though, as I've said before.

IT'S A FANZINE #11: Terrible zine. Hated every bit of it. Over-critical views,issues art,meaningless text written by grade schoolers.

Re-Awakening of the Grim One;#9;continued...not main Lines #9...sheesh...

Actually,Gene,I enjoyed the entire issue,and thought the cover stock color (yellow)with the black ink looked quite bold. Quite an excellent issue. There isn't very much for us to critisise here.It's very good.9.

Well,the zines are out of the way. What else can I talk about?

Zine plans: As many of you may or may not know,I won't be running for UFO Chairmen this year. This action is mainly due to the fact that I'd like to get back into contributing to other zines;as well as paying more attention to my own publications. Ie. *PPFSZT',and non-UFO publications like TOY COLLECTORS JOURNAL,and my planned black and white comic,"HEROIC".. all of these are going to be taking up a lot of my time this year.so ...

Since I am not pubbing an article zine anymore.I'll probably be doing some for Gene's great zine. I'll also be getting back into scripting strips as well.mostly for my own titles too.But I'd like to try my hand at others characters as well.

As for FANDOM WORLD...I'd like to try to redo it in the future...probably the color cover newsprint interior route...or heck,maybe even the way Gene does I.H.F...but not right now. I've got too many ol irons in the fire currently.

By the way,for those of you who are curious about such things..the reason I type some things on my regular Smith Corona and some on my Brother EP-22 dot matrix typer is simply because the Brother one is soooo much quiter. (er,quieter)and since I do a lot of typing at night,due to my schedule. I don't like using the noisier of the two...otherwise I wake up my two sons,my wife knocks the heck out of my,and yeow...well,you get the picture I guess. I just hope it's not too hard for ytou all to read.

*PPFSZT'#13 should be out by next month. The jam cover is taking longer to finish than I had thought it would...but the results are nice.#14 is being done in the meantime...hope to get 13-4 issues out this year.

Well,gotta go...wish you all well on your endeavors;you too Kurt,whenever you are*Private joke*!

S'long

Jimbo

NUMBER TWO

Hi..

Where have I been for the past few months? Well mostly I've been enjoying a break from publishing. But as the mail stacked up I got too behind, and soon started seriously thinking about quitting. But I've come up with an alternative. I'm giving up all my books, except for Moon Stone. MS will continue in a different format that I can keep up with. It will be somewhat like Small Press Explosion, in size. It will generally have 2 pages (8 printed pages) but some may have less or more. It will contain really anything. I'll keep up with reviews and it'll still have some big comics news, but the major difference will be more art. I really need art articles whatever you have laying around. There will be a special MS #11 printed very soon that will explain the change over and then in about a month I will start out on a regular schedule. There will probably be the whole Peacekeepers saga I was planning on printing along with some other things. It will be published twice monthly with a 25 cent cover price. It will be sent out at the end of every month, two issues at a time. Eventually I hope to start having interviews, including the long promised Bob Burden interview. One problem will be how will it be listed on the UFO Checklist? Another would be if I only put the checklist in every other issue...could I? I haven't yet talked to Jim about this, what does everyone else think about it?

To wrap this up... I give very satisfactory votes to Ditkomania #15 and #16, the latest Brigade, the latest It's A Fanzine, and Fandom World #2. I have to say Ditkomania is my favorite.

Also satisfactories go to Frontiers '85 and Blake Mail Material and the Slam Bang issue.

I know I have a lot of zines buried under my huge pile of mail, I'll get to those later along with lots more.

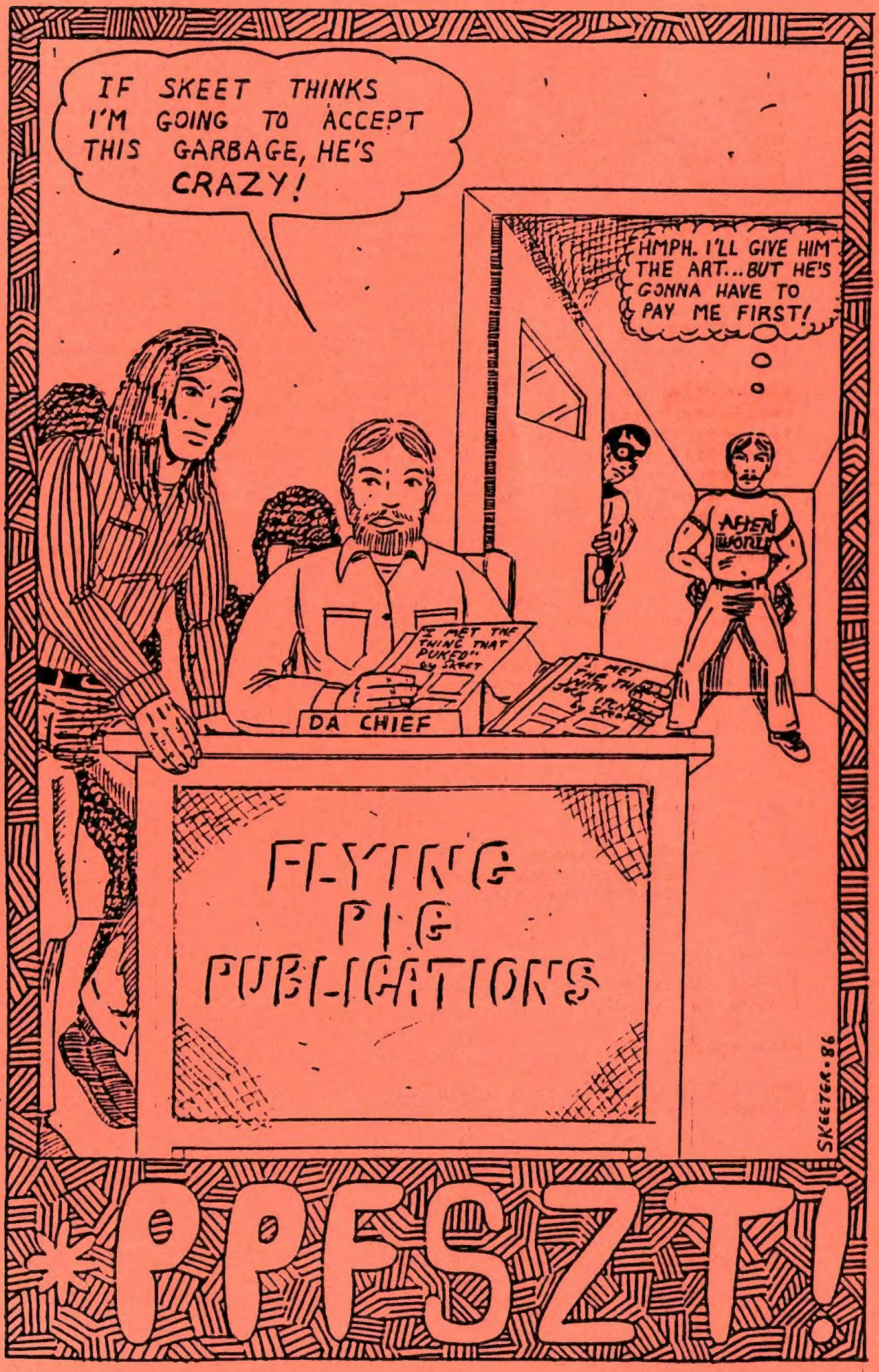
as always,

Ross Raihala
802 Hawthorne Street
Cloquet,MN 55720

A few last things... if anyone is looking for a book to publish I have quite a few just sitting around so if anyone is interseted please write ASAP.

Also anyone out there a Beatles fan?

Larry: I just got into the Monkees, and currently have 16 shows on tape.


IF SKEET THINKS I'M GOING TO ACCEPT THIS GARBAGE, HE'S CRAZY!
HMPH. I'LL GIVE HIM THE ART... BUT HE'S GONNA HAVE TO PAY ME FIRST!
DA CHIEF
FLYING PIG PUBLICATIONS
SKEETER·86
*PPFSZT!